

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Withdrawn/Currently Amended) A method of preparing ~~an~~a mammalian amniotic membrane extract, said method comprising the steps of:

obtaining a healthy amniotic membrane from a pregnant mammal;
homogenizing said membrane to obtain a homogenate solution;
centrifuging said homogenate solution and removing the
homogenate supernatant;

quick-freezing said homogenate ~~solutions~~supernatant; and
lyophilizing said frozen homogenate ~~solution~~supernatant to
dryness to obtain said mammalian amniotic membrane extract.

2. (Withdrawn/Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of processing said lyophilized homogenate supernatant to a powder.

3. (Withdrawn/Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of reconstituting said lyophilized homogenate supernatant.

4. (Withdrawn/Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said lyophilized homogenate supernatant is reconstituted in a liquid.

5. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 4, wherein said liquid is selected from the group consisting of balanced salt solution and fresh amniotic fluid.

6. (Withdrawn/Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said lyophilized homogenate supernatant is reconstituted in a gel, an ointment, a cream or a soap.

7. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein said amniotic membrane is a human amniotic membrane.

8. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein said amniotic membrane is obtained from a mammal selected from the group consisting of pig, cow or horse.

9. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein said amniotic membrane is freshly obtained.

10. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition for prophylaxis and/or treatment of a disease or condition, said composition comprising:

a therapeutically effective amount of ~~an~~ a mammalian amniotic membrane extract prepared according to the method of claim 1, and consisting essentially of a powdered form of a lyophilized mammalian amniotic membrane homogenate supernatant,

reconstituted in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier for administering said amniotic membrane extract to a patient in need of said prophylaxis and/or treatment.

11. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10, wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable carrier is selected from the group consisting of an ophthalmic solution for eye drops, a gel, an ointment, an emulsion, a cream, a powder and a spray.

12. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10, wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable carrier ~~is~~comprises a bandage or a medicinal contact lens for local administration to said patient.

13. (Withdrawn) A method of prophylaxis and/or treatment of a disease or condition, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a patient in need of such prophylaxis and/or treatment; and

administering an effective amount of the pharmaceutical composition of claim 10 to said patient.

14. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13, wherein said disease or condition is selected from the group consisting of persistent corneal ulcer, Ocular Cicatritial Pemphigoid, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, conjunctival inflammation, dry eye, Sjögren's syndrome, chemical or thermal injuries, multi-surgery effects, contact lenses over-wear, severe microbial infections, neurotrophic keratitis, ischemic keratitis, peripheral ulcerative or inflammatory keratitis, limbitis aniridia, pterigium or pseudopterygium, and multiple endocrine deficiency.

15. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13, wherein said carrier in said pharmaceutical composition for said amniotic membrane extract is preservative free eye drops.

16. (Withdrawn/Currently Amended) A kit for prophylaxis and/or treatment of a disease or condition, wherein said kit comprises:

a therapeutically effective amount of ~~an~~ the mammalian amniotic membrane extract ~~prepared according to the method of~~ claim 1 of claim 20; and

instructions for the use thereof.

17. (Withdrawn) The kit of claim 16, said kit further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier for administering said amniotic membrane extract to a patient in need of said prophylaxis and/or treatment.

18. (Withdrawn) A method of prophylaxis and/or treatment of a disease or condition, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a patient in need of such prophylaxis and/or treatment; and

administering an effective amount of the pharmaceutical composition of claim 11 to said patient.

19. (Withdrawn) A method of prophylaxis and/or treatment of a disease or condition, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a patient in need of such prophylaxis and/or treatment; and

administering an effective amount of the pharmaceutical composition of claim 12 to said patient.

20. (New) A mammalian amniotic membrane extract consisting essentially of a powdered form of a lyophilized mammalian amniotic membrane homogenate supernatant.

21. (New) The amniotic membrane extract of claim 20, wherein said amniotic membrane is a human amniotic membrane.

22. (New) The amniotic membrane extract of claim 20, wherein said amniotic membrane is from a mammal selected from the group consisting of pig, cow or horse.

23. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10, wherein said amniotic membrane is a human amniotic membrane.

24. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 10, wherein said amniotic membrane is from a mammal selected from the group consisting of pig, cow or horse.

25. (New) The kit of claim 16, wherein said amniotic membrane is a human amniotic membrane.

26. (New) The kit of claim 16, wherein said amniotic membrane is from a mammal selected from the group consisting of pig, cow or horse.